ACTS

H. L. Jackson

PASSED BY THE LEGISLATURE

OF THE

REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA

DURING THE SESSION 1886—1887

PRINTED BY AUTHORITY

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ACTS.

An Act to grant Seventy five Acres of land for the Anna Morris School of Arthington, and to incorporate the same.

It is enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1ST. All the Estate, right, title, and Interest of the people of the Republic of Liberia, of, in, and to, Seventy five Acres of the Public lands, lying, situate and being in or about the Town of Arthington, not otherwise appropriated, is hereby granted, released to and vested in the person named in the third section of this Act, as Trustee, and his successor, or successors so long as the property or Estate is applied to its legitimate purpose of establishing, building and maintaining thereon an Institution for the Literary, Industrial, Mechanical Education of the Natives of Liberia and Africa, and for their instruction in Christianity to be known by the perpetual title of "Anna Morris School."

SEC. 2ND. The aforesaid land shall be chosen as soon as this Act shall become a law, and the same is hereby granted and conveyed, as provided in the foregoing section.

SEC. 3RD. Edward S. Morris of Philadelphia in the United States of America shall be sole Trustee under this Act, with power to appoint his successor or successors, who shall have power to perpetuate themselves so long as the property or Estate is applied to its legitimate purpose. The said Trustee and his successor or successors shall be a body corporate, and may hold and manage, invest and reinvest, all property which may be given, or transferred to it, for the purpose of perpetuating the School named in this Act.

SEC. 4TH. This Act shall take effect immediately.

Approved January 6th, 1887.

An Act amending an Act providing for the erection of a Court House in Grand Bassa County.

SEC. 1ST That the Act passed and approved January 11th

1886 which provides for the erection of a Court House in the County of Grand Bassa, be so altered and amended as to read, that the walls of said Court House shall be constructed entirely of stone or bricks.

SEC. 2ND It is further Resolved; That the sum of Five Thousand Dollars appropriated in the aforementioned Act for the erection of said building, be, and the same is hereby reappropriated.

SEC. 3RD Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved January 6th. 1887.

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CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT,

Whereas it is the opinion of the Legislature that the official term for President, Vice President and Members of the Legislature is short and injurious to this State,

Therefore it is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled; and passed by the concurrence of two thirds of the Members of each branch of the Legislature.

SEC. 1ST. That the first clause of the 1st. and 2nd Sections of the 3rd Article of the Constitution be so altered and amended as to read four years, instead of two years for the official term of President and Vice President.

SEC. 2ND. It is further resolved :—That the 2nd and 5th. Sections of the 2nd Article of the Constitution be so altered and amended as to read respectively, four years instead of two years for the official terms of Representatives, and Eight years instead of Four years for that of Senators.

SEC. 3RD. It is further Resolved :—That the President be, and he is hereby authorized to have an extra election in May A. D. 1889 in each County to elect one Senator for each County who shall serve two years from the time of their election.

SEC. 4TH. It is further Resolved :—That the alterations and amendments be submitted to the people at the next Biennial election agreable to the provisions of the 17th Section of the 5th Article of the Constitution and the ballots shall be written "Adoption or no Adoption."

Approved January 11th. 1887.

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An Act Reimbursing the Superintendent of Robertsport.

Whereas the Superintendent of Robertsport by a petition showeth, that he has expended the sum of One Hundred Dollars for clerks salary.

Therefore, It is enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

That from and after the passage of this Act the Secretary of the Treasury be, and he is hereby authorized to pay to the Superintendent of Robertsport the sum of One Hundred Dollars, being the amount claimed by him for clerks salary and the same to be put in the appropriation bill.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding,

Approved January 11th 1887.

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An Act providing for a bridge in the Settlement of Tallah, Grand Cape Mount.

It is enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

That from and after the passage of this Act, that the sum of Seventy Dollars be, and is hereby appropriated for the construction of one bridge in the Settlement of Tallah. Said bridge to be situated between Peter Fuller's land, and James W. Wilson's land, and the same to be put in the appropriation bill.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved January 11th 1887.

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Resolution for the immediate settlement of the difficulty between the Golahs and the Boatswain tribes, and opening of the road.

Whereas there has been dissatisfactions between the Ding Golah tribes and the Boatswains for over a year; and whereas said dissatisfaction did exist until it brought on a war between the aforesaid tribes, thereby causing the road to be shut to the detriment of trade by the interference of one "Dwollah Zeppia" successor to Farquaqua in Montserrado County.

It is enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature Assembled.

Sec 1st That from and after the passage of this resolution, the President be and he is hereby authorized to send out Commissioners at once who shall proceed to "Bongh" the town of the above Dwollah Zeppia to adjust and settle the difficulties and open the Road.

Sec. 2nd That said Commissioners shall have full power to summon any head man or Chief who may be implicated or said to be implicated and have them before the council, for investigation, and if in the opinion of the council, said party or parties are guilty, shall impose such fines upon them, as in the Judgement of a majority of the Commissioners may decide, and cost of said Commission, and on failure to pay, the party or parties shall be brought to the Capital and imprisoned until said fine be paid and costs.

Sec. 3rd It is further enacted that said Commissioners shall receive for their services the sum of two dollars per diem; and should it be necessary for a posse of men to accompany the Commissioners, they shall receive the sum of One Dollar per day each for their services.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved January 17th 1887

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An Amendment to the several Statutes Regulating the payment and the Collection of duties upon Imports and Exports within this Republic.

It is enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

Sec. 1st That from and immediately after the passage of this Act, the advalorem duty for and upon all goods or merchandise imported into this Republic, except the Specific duty articles, the sum of ten per cent upon each dollar, shall be assessed, levied and collected, according to the manner prescribed for the payment and collection of duties; and that said advalorem duties shall be payable one third in gold, and two thirds in Currency. The duty upon tobacco however shall be paid one half in gold and one half in currency. Duties on powder, alcoholic liquors, guns brass kettles, shall remain unchanged.

Sec. 2nd The export duty upon all clean coffee is hereby repealed, and the duty on Palm oil shall be one cent per gallon, two cent for each bushel of Palm kernels, and three and a half dollars per ton—(of 2240 lbs) on camwood and all other Exports to be paid in Currency.

Sec. 3rd All of the requirements and customs regulating as is set forth in the several unrepealed statutes authorizing the payment of Import and Export duties and the collection of the same remain as heretofore except such parts as are changed by this act.

Sec. 4th Any law or parts of law conflicting with this act be and the same is hereby repealed.

Approved January 17th 1887.

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An Act appropriating the sum of One Hundred and Sixty Dollars, to open the Avenue for the people of Sassy Town, Louisianna Settlement.

It is enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled:

Sec. 1st, That from and after the passage of this Act, the President be, and he is hereby authorized to direct the Secretary of the Treasury, to contract with, and employ any respon-

sible person or Surveyor, who will undertake to open the Avenue between Outland and H, W. Dennis' Sr. land back to the settlement of Sassy Town, Louisianna.

SEC. 2nd, That the said person or surveyor, is to do the said surveying and opening of the said Avenue in a workmanlike manner, and the road Overseer, is to furnish the Contractor with a certificate, signed by three witnesses, showing that the work is completed, before the payment can be demanded at the Sub.Treasury of Montserrado County ; and on failure, the said Contractor shall forfeit the contract, and he shall be dealt with according to the law governing contracts.

Approved January 17th, 1887.

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Whereas the Legislature at the Session of 1885 and 86 enacted a law providing for the appointment of a Superintendent for Montserrado County ;

And whereas it appears since the appointment of said Officer, that it conflicts with the duties of the Superintendent of Cape Mount, Montserrado County, and as the warlike disposition of the Natives of that Section of the Country, makes it necessary, that it should be under the immediate direction of the Chief Executive Government ;

Therefore : It is enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1st. That from and after the passage of this Act, the Superintendent of Robertsport be under the immediate direction of the Chief Executive Government.

Approved January 17th 1887.

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Whereas from the report of the Secretary of the Treasury War and Navy, it appears that there exists a spirit of hostility and rebellion among the natives of Timbo, Grand Bassa County, insomuch that they frequently commit acts of aggression and wrong upon Liberian Factors residing there for the peaceful purposes of trade; and whereas if said acts remain unnoticed by the government, it will tend eventually to destroy our coastwise trade, Therefore:

It is enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC 1ST. That the President be and he is hereby authorized and directed, to interdict the said Port of Timbo, and vicinity, commencing at Quintizone point, and extending to Mannah point. The same to remain interdicted until the natives shall have fully complied with the requisitions of the Government, and returned to their allegiance to the same.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.
Approved January 17th. 1887.

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A Resolution fixing the day of adjournment of the Twentieth Legislature, second session.

It is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1ST That the second session of the Twentieth Legislature adjourn its present session sine die, on the 19th day of January A. D. 1887.
Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.
Approved January 18th. 1887.

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A Resolution authorizing the suppression of the rebellious attitude assumed by the Greboes at Half Cavalla in Maryland County.

It is resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature Assembled.

SEC. 1ST That from and immediately after the passage of this Act the President be, and he is hereby authorized and directed to adopt speedy and effective measures for the settlement of our differences with the Greboes of Half Cavalla and parts Adjacent, and compel them to yield obedience to the authority of the Government of this Republic and to desist immediately from further acts of hostilities against this Government.

SEC. 2ND. That if in the opinion of the President upon examination of the affairs at Maryland County it should be deemed necessary to resort to co-ercive means or to employ a military expedition to compel obedience, to the laws of this Republic, the sum of Twenty thousand dollars be and the same is hereby appropriated to carry out the provisions of the same, and the President be and he is hereby authorized to draw on the Public Treasury for said amount

SEC. 3rd And it is further resolved that the President be and he is hereby authorized to solicit the aid of any foreign Man-of War to assist the Government in suppressing the rebellion of Half Cavalla as well as to assist the Government to interdict said place.

SEC. 4th, Any law or parts of laws conflicting with this Act be, -and the same is hereby repealed.
Passed into a law by limitation.
January 15th, 1887.

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An Act to incorporate Zion Grove Baptist Church of Brewersville, Montserrado County.

It is enacted by the Senate and ... of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1ST. That from and after the passage of this act, that J. O. Hayes Pastor- R. H. Eubanks, Charles Freeman, Warren Phelps, March Gaskins, J. C. Sears and W. B. Gant Deacons, with John Brown, M. Warn, L. Daily, Henry Clements and George Holmes Trustees, now worshipping in the Church Edifice called Zion Grove Baptist Church of Brewerville, are hereby constituted a body corporate and politic; to have a perpetual succession by the name of Zion Grove Baptist Church of Brewerville; and with power to take hold, possess and enjoy real and personal estate by grant purchase or otherwise, and to convey the same wherever the circumstances of said body shall make it conducive to its interest, in an amount not exceeding Five Thousand Dollars, and to have the privilege to sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded in any Court of law or equity in this Republic; and to do all acts and things usual to be done by such bodies.

Any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved January 21st 1887.

An Act to alter and amend the Several acts establishing the Judiciary and regulating the powers common to the Courts of Quarter Sessions and Common Pleas of the Several Counties.

It is enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Liberia in Legislature assembled.

SEC. 1st That from and after the passage of this act, The Court of Quarter Sessions and Common Pleas in the County of Montserrado, shall not be restricted to the term of two weeks for the duration of its Session, as heretofore, but shall have authority to continue each of its Sessions, in the discretion of the Judge for a term of three weeks.

SEC. 2ND. The first two weeks of each Session of said Court shall be used for the trial of Jury cases, civil and criminal, and on the Second Saturday of each session all Jurors not then empannelled shall be dismissed, and no Jury shall be empannelled after that day of that Session, the remainder of the Session shall be used in the trial of such cases, as can be tried without a Jury, the hearing of reports and the hearing of arguments on motion in cases to be tried, at a subsequent term, and such other business as the Court may have to attend to at that time.

SEC. 3RD. All Justices of the Peace are hereby required to keep a list of writs issued and tried by them, showing the names of the Constables to whom the writ was directed, and the Constable who served the writ: and also showing the Executions issued by them, and the Constable

in whose hands said writs are placed, such Justices shall be required to forward correct copies of such lists to the clerks of the Quarterly Courts, on or before the first day of each Session of said Court, to be used by the Courts in verifying the correctness of the Constables Reports.

SEC 4TH. That from and after the passage of this act, on all Judgements rendered in the Courts of Monthly and Quarterly Sessions in this Republic, in all actions of Debt Specific performance and damages when required by the Defendant or defendants, the cost being paid and sufficient surety approved by the Courts, first given, time for payment shall be allowed. All sums of one hundred dollars, two months, all sums from two hundred dollars to five hundred dollars four month all sums from five huudred dollarsto one Thousand dollars, Six months and all sums from one Thousand dollars and upwards one year shall be allowed, after which time execution shall be issued under the laws governing the issuing of the same, the parties paying an interest of four per cent from the rendition of said Judgement up to the time payment is made to the plaintiff or plaintiffs in the actions.

SEC 5TH That the third Section of the act to amend an Act establishing the Judiciary and fixing the powers common to the several courts approved January 15th 1879, be amended by striking out the words "nearly" after the word Court, in the fourth line from the top, and inserting the the word "nearest" between the words "next" and Court in said line of said section.

All laws or parts of laws conflicting with this act are hereby repealed.

Approved January 21st. 1887.